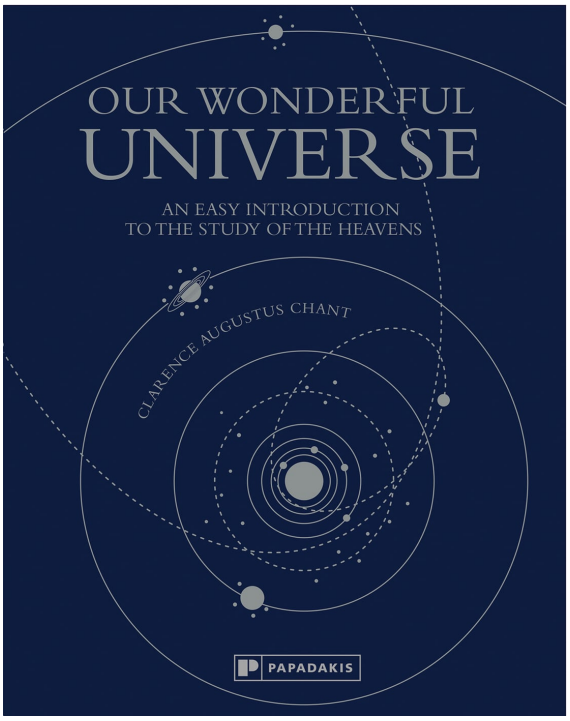
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Our Wonderful Universe

An Easy Introduction to the Study of the Heavens

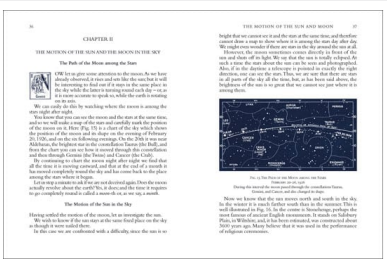
Clarence Augustus Chant

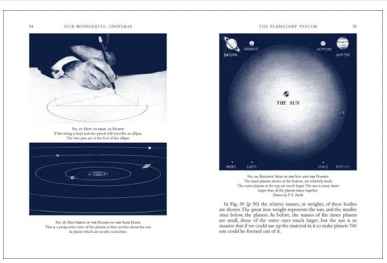
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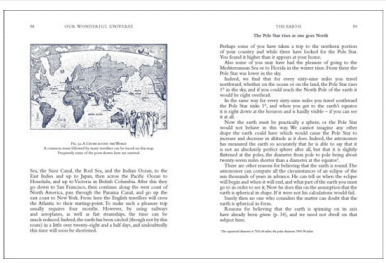
- Reissue of an important work written by the father of Canadian astronomy
- Astronomy is popular! The constant stream of incredible pictures from Hubble telescope has inspired people around the world to look up at the night sky
- Beautifully packaged

Astronomy is one of the oldest branches of science. It has fascinated humanity from the earliest times. Huge advances have been made since Clarence Augustus Chant's acclaimed work, ***Our Wonderful Universe,*** was first published in 1928. We have sent humans into space and walked on the moon. Spacecraft have landed on Mars, and the International Space Station, a joint project among five space agencies, has been continuously occupied by humans since November 2000. We are using telescopes and satellites to observe the skies, studying planets, moons, stars, galaxies, and comets, as well as supernovae explosions, gamma ray bursts, and cosmic microwave background radiation. Is there life elsewhere in the Universe? What is the nature of dark energy? What is the ultimate fate of the Universe? Astronomy is one of the few sciences where amateurs can still play an important active role, especially in the discovery and observation of variable stars, tracking asteroids and discovering transient objects, such as comets and novae. Written in a clear and charming style, ***Our Wonderful Universe*** is developed in the form of a talk, presenting the fundamental facts of astronomy in a simple and logical progression. It is illustrated with the complete set of drawings and plates that accompanied the original edition. Its purpose and approach is just as relevant today, and we hope that readers will enjoy the way in which Chant leads us on his journey of discoveries of the Universe.

Clarence Augustus Chant (May 31, 1865 - November 18, 1956) was a Canadian astronomer and physicist. He is considered by many to be the father of Canadian astronomy , and indeed, five of his former students went on to become directors of astronomical observatories. Educated at the University of Toronto and Harvard, he taught at the University of Toronto from 1891 until his retirement in 1935. Chant was notable for his early work on X-ray photographs, but especially for his development of Canadian astronomy. In 1907, during his last year as President of the Royal Astronomical Society, he created the *Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada* and the *Observer's Handbook*. He would remain the editor of both publications until his death in 1956. Chant participated in five total solar-eclipse expeditions, the most important being the one he led to Australia in 1922 to test Einstein's theory of the deflection of starlight by a massive body. In 1928 he published *Our Wonderful Universe* with enormous success; it was translated into five languages. Through his efforts, the dream of a great observatory near Toronto came to fruition in 1933, when Mrs David Dunlap presented to the University of Toronto an observatory with a 74-inch (1.88 m) telescope. It remains to this day the largest optical telescope in Canada. He died at 91 during the November 1956 lunar eclipse, while still residing at the Observatory House. Asteroid 3341 is named in his honour, and in 1940, the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada created the Chant Medal, awarded each year to a Canadian amateur astronomer in recognition of their work.







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